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(54) Title: GLYCEROPHOSPHOINOSITOL DERIVATIVES AS MODULATORS OF CYTOSOLIC A2 PHOSPHOLIPASE

(57) Abstract: Optionally O-substituted glycerophosphoinositol derivatives, their analogues and their salts wherein the substituents R¹, R², R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, R₆ have the described meaning, their synthesis and their pharmacological effect as modulators of the activation or over-stimulation of cPLA₂.

DESCRIPTION

Glycerophosphoinositol derivatives
as modulators of cytosolic Phospholipase.

The present invention regards the use of glycerophosphoinositols for the preparation of a therapeutical drug for the inhibition of the release of arachidonic acid, new derivatives with glycerophosphoinositolic structure and their preparation. Phospholipases are enzymes that catalyze the hydrolysis of membrane phospholipids and are classified according the type of chemical bond involved, in phospholipase A1, A2, B, C, D.

In mammals, the mobilization of arachidonic acid from the sn2 ester bond of phospholipids is greatly due to the activation of cytosolic phospholipase A2 (cPLA2) following the receptor activation induced by a number of agonists including hormones, neurotransmitters, neuropeptides and growth factors.

Considering the mechanism of PLA2 activation via the agonist-receptor interaction, the G-proteins have been proposed to mediate the receptor induced activation

through two distinct mechanisms: (i) direct interaction with the PLA2, since it is well known that the treatment with pertussis toxin reduces its enzymatic activity; or (ii) indirectly mediated through phospholipase C (PLC) activation, phosphorylation and activation of the PLA2 by the Mitogen Activated Protein Kinases (MAPK).

Two isoforms of the phospholipase A2 have been identified in mammals, a 14 kDa secretory form and a 85 kDa cytosolic form (cPLA2) which do not share amino acid sequence homology and differ in their catalytic and regulatory mechanisms. The cytosolic phospholipase A2 is located in the cytosol of quiescent cells, for example platelets and leucocytes: lipopolisaccharide, thrombin or cytokines (for example Interleukin 1 β), Tumor Necrosis Factor α , but also neuropeptides such as tachikinins, bradikinin or neurotransmitters such as purines, particularly ATP, and serotonergic, adrenergic and muscarinic agonists activate the enzyme leading to an increase of the intracellular calcium levels and a rapid phosphorylation of the enzyme by protein Kinase C and a subsequent translocation to the plasma membrane where it binds to the phospholipid substrate. These mediators also induce the de novo synthesis of the enzyme (E. Armandi-Burgermeister, U. Tibes, B.M. Kaiser, W.G. Friebe, W.V.

Scheuer , "Suppression of Cytokine synthesis, integrin expression and chronic inflammation by inhibitors of cytosolic phospholipase A2" Europ. J. Pharmacol., 326 (1997) 237-250). ,

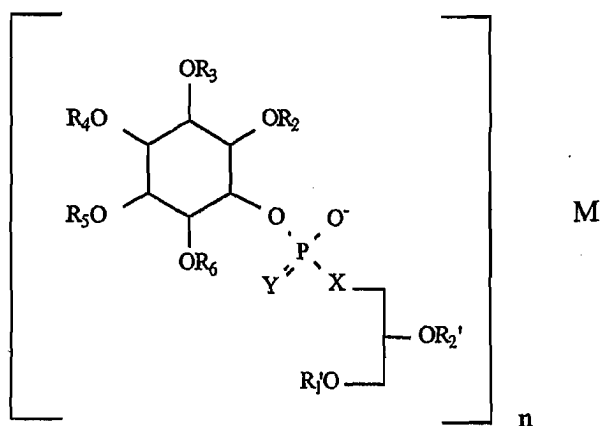
The tight intermodulation of the G protein, PKC, cPLA2 systems and the involvement of the cPLA2 in the production of lipid and lysolipid mediators (Glycerophosphoinositol-4-phosphate in intracellular signaling " C.P. Berrie, M.Falasca, A. Carvelli, C. Iurisci and D.Corda, in Bioactive Lipids, Vanderbock YY/ed. Plenum Publishing Corporation New York , 1998) make the PLA2 a potentially important pharmacological target.

The applicant has now originally found that a substance generated concomitantly with the release of arachidonic acid, that is L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol (GPI), is an autacoid and, furthermore, its potassium, calcium and zinc salts and other new derivatives and analogues obtained by chemical semisynthesis and having the general formula (I) subsequently described, exert a potent inhibitory effect on the release of arachidonic acid via a negative modulation of the PLA2 in vitro activation and can be

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effectively used for the treatment of pathologies mediated by the activation of PLA2 as following described.

Object of the present invention are the derivatives and analogues of the glycerophospho-D-myo-inositol optionally O-substituted in positions 2,3,4,5,6 or 1' and 2', characterized by the following general formula:



where R'1, R'2, R2, R3, R4, R5, R6, equal or different between each other, can be either H, or C(O)A or B where the meaning of A, B, X, Y and M are subsequently detailed.

The present invention relates also to the use of L- α -glycerophospho-D-myo-inositol (GPI) and its salts, particularly with metal alkaline or earth alkaline,

particularly calcium, and with zinc together with the new derivatives according to formula (I) for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of pathologies mediated by the activation or over activation of the PLA2.

The present invention furthermore relates to pharmaceutical compositions which contain as the active ingredient at least one of the derivatives of formula (I) associated with adequate excipients for the treatment of pathologies mediated by the activation or over stimulation of the PLA2, particularly, septic shock and viral and bacterial infections, pathologies of the respiratory apparatus, such as acute pulmonary damage including new-born pathologies, chronic obstructive bronchopathies including asthma; dermatologic pathologies such as psoriasis, seborrheic dermatitis, atopic dermatitis and more generally skin dis-reactivity involving also the oxidative stress following UV damage; damages to the gingival tissue due also to bacterial infections; intestinal ischemia; articular pathologies such as arthritis and arthrosis, including rheumatoid arthritis; ophthalmologic pathologies, headaches, cardiovascular pathologies associated with vascular remodeling, kidney pathologies and any pathology associated with the over stimulation of PLA2 enzyme

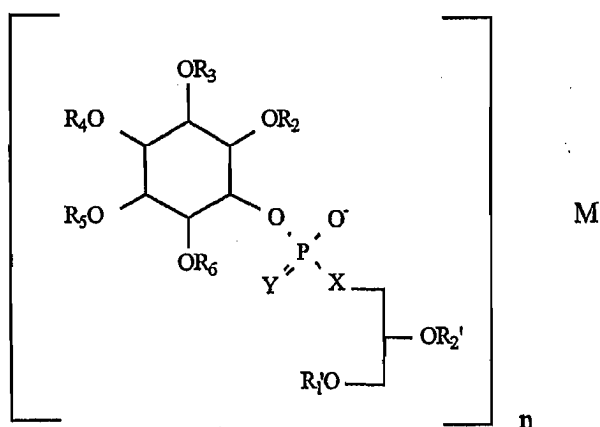
even mediated by the activation of specific receptors and growth factors such as EGF, NGF or of tachikins such as the NK receptors, or of purines (for example ATP) such as the P2Y, or of neuropeptides such as bombesin or other receptors coupled with G proteins which activate PLA₂; tumor pathologies, such as the prostate and kidney carcinoma, or in any way dependent on the activation of the PLA₂, pain and iperalgesia, pathologies of the Central and Peripheral Nervous System and pathologies depending on the sphingomyelin cycle, including the hereditary forms such as the Hermansky-Pudlak and the Nieman-Pick syndromes; pathologies associated with damage to the barrier between vessel and nervous system such as the perineurium of the nerves and the blood brain barrier, for example neuronal edema, stroke, cerebral edema and hemorrhage, TIA (Transient Ischemic Attack); Alzheimer's disease or behavioral disorders such as schizophrenia; dis-metabolic pathologies such as diabetes; pancreatitis, pathologies related to food intake disorders such as bulimia, anorexia, cachessia, obesity, depression.

The characterization and the advantages of the derivatives and analogues of glycerophospho-D-myo-inositol according to formula (I) as agents capable to

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negatively modulate the over stimulation of the phospholipase A2, and particularly its cytosolic isoform (cPLA2), with subsequent inhibition of the release of arachidonic acid and of its metabolites, will be described in detail in the following sections.

The invention regards the compounds according to the general formula (I)



their enantiomers, diastereoisomers, racemes, their mixtures, their hydrates and solvates, wherein:

I) R' , R_2' , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 can be equal or different among each other being

a) H or

a group $C(O)A$, acyclic residue of mono-carboxylic acid or emiacyclic residue of di-carboxylic acid, where A can be:

an alkyl radical saturated or unsaturated having from 1 to 4 double bond, straight or branched, or an alkyl or alkenyl group mono or poly-cyclic, or an aryl, arylalkyl or heterocyclic group having one or more heteroatoms; these groups can be optionally substituted with one or more groups selected among keto, hydroxy, acylamido, halogen, mercapto, alkylthio or alkylidithio, -COOH and where these -COOH are optionally neutralized to form a -COOM salt wherein M has the same meaning described at point (II); or

- a group B wherein B is an alkyl group saturated or unsaturated with from 1 to 6 double bonds, straight or branched; or an alkyl or alkenyl group mono- or poly-cyclic or an aryl, alkylaryl group or heterocycle group having one or more heteroatoms; these groups are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected among keto, hydroxy, acylamido, halogen, mercapto, alkylthio or alkylidithio, -COOH and these -COOH are optionally neutralized to form a -COOM salt wherein M has the same meaning described at point (II)

((II) M is the cation of an inorganic element pharmacologically acceptable, or a cation of an organic base pharmacologically acceptable having valence $n+$

wherein n has the meaning described in the following point (III);

(III) n is equal to 1 or 2 or 3;

(IV) X e Y identical or different among each other
are O or S;

and wherein, when Y is S, the compounds according to
formula (I) include also the respective non-neutralized
compounds.

More detailed :

Description of A:

i) when A is an alkyl group it is preferably saturated
or mono-unsaturated and preferably has from 1 to 8 carbon
atoms, and preferably from 2 to 6.

ii) when A is an alkyl or alkenil group mono- o poly-
cyclic it has preferably from 5 to 30 carbon atoms, more
preferably from 6 to 24 carbon atoms.

when A is an aryl, arylalkyl or heterocycle group having
one or more heteroatoms, it has preferably from 4 to 15
carbon atoms and more preferably from 4 to 8. The
heteroatoms are from 1 to 5 and preferably from 1 to 3.
They are N, O or S, preferably N. These heteroatoms N can
be optionally neutralized to form a salt with a
pharmacologically acceptable organic or inorganic acid.

Description of B:

i) when B is an alkyl it is preferably saturated or mono-unsaturated. Preferably it has from 1 to 8 carbon atoms and more preferably from 2 to 6 carbon atoms.

ii) when B is an alkyl or alkenyl radical, mono- or poly- cyclic, it has preferably from 5 to 30 carbon atoms, more preferably from 6 to 24 carbon atoms.

when B is an aryl, arylalkyl or heterocycle having one or more heteroatoms, it has preferably from 5 to 15 carbon atoms and more preferably from 5 to 8. The heteroatoms are preferably from 1 to 5 and more preferably from 1 to 3. They are N, O or S, preferably N. These heteroatoms N can be optionally neutralized to form a salt with a pharmacologically acceptable organic or inorganic acid.

Description of M:

i) when M is the cation of a pharmacologically acceptable inorganic element, it is preferably selected among sodium, lithium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, zinc, iron, selenium, chromium, copper.

ii) when M is the cation of a pharmacologically acceptable organic base, it is preferably a mono-, di-, tri- or tetra-alkylammonium, more preferably N-(2-hydroxyethyl)-dimethylammonium, a cation of choline or of an amino acid, preferably lysine or arginine or a

cation of mono-, di-, tri and tetra-peptides preferably carnosine or cations of xanthine base and, preferably, caffeine.

The term acylamino means preferably a acetylammino group.

The term alkoxy means preferably methoxy-, ethoxy or allyloxy groups.

The term halogen means preferably chloride, fluoride, bromide or iodide.

The term arylalkyl radical means preferably a C7-C9-arylalkyl group and more preferably a benzyl.

The term aryl radical means preferably a C6-C12-aryle, preferably a phenyl.

The term heterocycle means preferably the radical of a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic heterocycle, with a 5 or 6 atom -ring.

The term cycloalkyl or cycloalkylenic radical means preferably a ring mono- or poly- cyclic having preferably

from 5 to 30 carbon atoms, more preferably from 6 to 24 carbon atoms.

X and Y identical or different with each other are O or S and are preferably equal each other and preferably equal to O.

A further object of the present invention is the use of the compounds of formula (I) and of the related non-salified products for the treatment of pathologies mediated by the activation or over-stimulation of cPLA2, with particular regard to the pathologies previously listed.

Preparation of the compounds of the invention

The preparation of the compounds of the present invention is carried out preferably, but not limited to, starting from L- α -glycero-phospho-D-myo-inositol (GPI); the homologous of GPI containing sulphur atoms, glycerophosphothioinositols are prepared according to the methods described in the following examples starting from commercially available intermediates, or prepared according to simple methods reported in the literature. GPI is a known substance available as commercial product in form of potassium salt. GPI in aqueous solution at

room temperature is stable only at pH values near to the neutrality. At different pH value the molecule is subjected to hydrolysis reactions and is degraded. The following methods described herein for the preparation of new salts of GPI, have been shown efficient in maintaining the stability of the structure of GPI.

The following new GPI salts herein described have been prepared mainly starting from potassium salt, nevertheless the following methods herein described are suitable for the preparation of any of the new derivatives starting from different salts wherever required by industrial opportunity.

General Methods for the preparation of new L- α -glycero-phospho-D-myo-inositol salts (GPI).

Method I

The general method for the preparation of inorganic and organic salts of L- α -glycero-phospho-D-myo-inositol (GPI) is according to US patent US 5,306,840 and briefly it will be as follows: solubilization of the starting salt in water or mixture of water and mixture of water and an organic solvent and then application to a column of cationic exchange resin, generated as H⁺ form at

temperature of 4°C. The solution of GPI acid form eluted is collected and kept at 0-4°C then neutralised mole to mole with a base of a cation organic or inorganic biologically acceptable to give the related salt. The solution can be used as it is for the subsequent operations of formulation or it can be dried under vacuum by lyophilization or spray-dryer to obtain the salt of GPI pure and dry as a solid.

The general method for the preparation of alkyl or acyl derivatives on -OH group(s) of L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol (GPI) is generally performed starting from a GPI salt prepared according to the USA patent n° US 5,306,840, generally the potassium salt or a salt with quaternary ammonium, preferably terbutylammonium in an organic solvent pure or mixture of organic solvents or mixture of an organic solvent with water at a concentration between 10 to 500 mg/ml and preferably 50 to 200 mg/ml. Among the organic solvents the following are preferred: acetone, 2-butanone, methylisobutylketone, dimethylsulfoxide, sulfolane, dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide, n-methyl-2-pyrrolidone, pyridine, tetrahydrofurano, methyltetrahydrofurano, acetonitrile, dimethoxyethane, diethylether, terbutylmethylether, ethyl acetate, chloroform, dichloromethane, 1,1,1-

trichloroethane, methanol, ethanol, 2-propanol, butanol. The reactions are performed at temperature between -30°C and $+120^{\circ}\text{C}$ and preferably $+5^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $+40^{\circ}\text{C}$ over a time from 15 minutes to 48 hours and preferably between 1 hour and 15 hours.

To insert $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{A}$ groups, acyclic groups of monocarboxylic acids or emiacyclic group of dicarboxylic acid as defined at point I of the detailed description, GPI reacts with activated derivatives of the above acid and preferably chloride, bromide, mixed anhydrides, cyclic anhydrides, activated esters such as p-nitrophenylesters, succinimidylesters, acylimidazole, O-acylisoureas and preferably but not limitatively in presence of an organic or inorganic bases. These bases are preferably carbonate, bicarbonate, oxide, hydroxide, hydrides and alcoholates of alkaline or earth alkaline metals and preferably lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, trimethylamine, triethylamine, tributylamine, tetramethylammonium hydroxide, tetrabutylammonium hydroxide, pyridine or picoline.

To insert B groups as defined at point (I) of the detailed description, GPI reacts with activated derivatives of formula Z-B wherein Z is an alogen and

preferably chloride, bromide or iodide, or an alkylsulfonate group and preferably methansulfonate, benzensulfonate, p-toluensulfonate or trifluoromethansulfonate. The reaction of GPI with Z-B is performed preferably but non limitatively in presence of an inorganic or organic base. These bases are preferably carbonate, bicarbonate, oxide, hydroxide, iodide and alcoholates of alkaline or earth alkaline metals and preferably lithium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, trimethylamine, triethylamine, tributylamine, tetramethylammonium hydroxide, tetrabutylammonium hydroxide, pyridine or picoline.

In the same manner are prepared alkyl or acyl derivatives of the homologues of GPI containing S atoms: the glycerophosphotioinositols.

Example 1

Preparation of magnesium salt of L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol

3,7 g of GPI potassium salt (10 mmoles) are dissolved in 35 ml of distilled water. The solution is cooled at 4°C and applied to a column containing 15 ml of cationic exchange sulphonic resin generated in H⁺ form and thermostated at 4°C. The column is then eluted with 15 ml of distilled water and the eluate is collected at 4°C,

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flowed with nitrogen stream and neutralised with 0,292 g of magnesium hydroxide. The obtained solution is filtered, frozen and vacuum dried.

The reaction yields 98 %.

The chemical-physical characteristics of the product L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol magnesium salt are:

Appearance : white powder

molecular formula : $(C_9H_{18}O_{11}P)_2 Mg$

molecular weight : 690,71

elemental analysis : C=31,3%;H=5,25%;O=50,96%,

P=8,97%, g=3,52%

solubility in organic solvents : slightly soluble in organic solvents

solubility in water : >10mg/ml

TLC : 100 mcg applied to a silica gel glass;

developing solvent A chloroform/methanol/water 3:3:1

developing solvent B acetonitrile/water 3:1, spray $KMnO_4$

basic - complying with the standard of GPI no degradation product is observed.

Example 2

Preparation of calcium salt of L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol

3,7 g of GPI potassium salt (10 mmoles) are dissolved in 35 ml of distilled water. The solution is cooled at 4°C

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and applied to in a column containing 15 ml of cationic exchange sulfonic resin generated in H⁺ form and thermostated at 4°C. The column is then eluted with 15 ml of distilled water and the eluate is collected at 4°C, flowed with nitrogen stream and neutralised with 0,370 g of calcium hydroxide. The obtained solution is filtered, frozen and vacuum dried.

The reaction yields 98 %.

The chemical-physical characteristics of the product L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol magnesium salt are:

Appearance : white powder
molecular formula : $(C_9H_{18}O_{11}P)_2 Ca$
molecular weight : 706,48
elemental analysis : C=30,6%;H=5,14%;O=49,82%,
P=8,77%, Ca=5,67%solubility in organic solvents :
slightly soluble in organic solvents
solubility in water : >10mg/ml
TLC : 100 mcg applied to a silica gel glass;
developing solvent A chloroform/methanol/water 3:3:1
developing solvent B acetonitrile/water 3:1, spray $KMnO_4$
basic - complying with the standard of GPI no degradation
product is observed.

Example 3

Preparation of zinc salt of L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol

3,7 g of GPI potassium salt (10 mmoles) are dissolved in 35 ml of distilled water. The solution is cooled at 4°C and applied to a column containing 15 ml of cationic exchange sulfonic resin generated in H⁺ form and thermostated at 4°C. The column is then eluted with 15 ml of distilled water and the eluate is collected at 4°C, flowed with nitrogen stream and neutralised with 0,54 g zinc carbonate basic. The obtained solution is filtered, frozen and vacuum dried.

The reaction yields 99 %.

The chemical-physical characteristics of the product L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol zinc salt are:

Appearance : white powder

molecular formula : $(C_9H_{18}O_{11}P)_2 Zn$

molecular weight : 731,78

elemental analysis : C=29,54%;H=4,96%;O=48,1%,

P=8,47%, Zn=8,93%

solubility in organic solvents : slightly soluble
in organic solvents

solubility in water : >10mg/ml

TLC : 100 mcg applied to a on silica gel plate;

developing solvent A chloroform/methanol/water 3:3:1

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developing solvent B acetonitrile/water 3:1, spray KMnO_4 basic - complying with the standard of GPI no degradation product is observed.

Example 4

Preparation of sodium salt of L- α -glycero-phospho-D-myo-inositol

3,7 g of GPI potassium salt (10 mmoles) are dissolved in 35 ml of distilled water. The solution is cooled at 4°C and applied to a column containing 15 ml of cationic exchange sulfonic resin generated in H^+ form and thermostated at 4°C. The column is then eluted with 15 ml of distilled water and the eluate is collected at 4°C, flowed with nitrogen stream and neutralised with 0,53 g sodium carbonate basic. The obtained solution is filtered, frozen and vacuum dried.

The reaction yields 98%.

The chemical-physical characteristics of the product L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol sodium salt are:

Appearance : white powder
molecular formula : $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_{11}\text{P Na}$
molecular weight : 356,2
elemental analysis : $\text{C}=30,35\%; \text{H}=5,09\%; \text{O}=49,41\%,$
 $\text{P}=8,70\%, \text{Na}=6,45\%$

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solubility in organic solvents : slightly soluble

in organic solvents

solubility in water : >10mg/ml

TLC : 100 mcg applied to a silica gel plate;

developing solvent A chloroform/methanol/water 3:3:1;

developing solvent B acetonitrile/water 3:1,

spray KMnO_4 basic - complying with the standard of GPI no degradation product is observed.

Example 5

Preparation of choline salt of L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol

3,7 g of GPI potassium salt (10 mmoles) are dissolved in 35 ml of distilled water. The solution is cooled at 4°C and applied in a column containing 15 ml of cationic exchange sulfonic resin generated in H^+ form and thermostated at 4°C. The column is then eluted with 15 ml of distilled water and the eluate is collected at 4°C, flowed with nitrogen stream and neutralised with 2,69 g of a solution of choline in methanol 45%. The obtained solution is filtered, frozen and vacuum dried.

The reaction yields 98%.

The chemical-physical characteristics of the product L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol choline salt are:

Appearance : powder

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Formula : $C_9H_{18}O_{11}P \cdot C_5H_{14}NO$
molecular formula : $C_{14}H_{32}NO_{12}P$
molecular weight : 437,37
elemental analysis : C=38,45%; H=7,38%; N=3,20;
O=43,90, P=7,08%
solubility in organic solvents : slightly soluble
in organic solvents
solubility in water : >10mg/ml
TLC : 100 mcg applied to silica gelplate;
developing solvent A chloroform/methanol/water 3:3:1
developing solvent B acetonitrile/water 3:1, spray $KMnO_4$
basic - complying with the standard of GPI; no
degradation product is observed.

Example 6

Preparation of lysine salt of L- α -glycero-phospho-
D-mio-inositol

3,7 g of GPI potassium salt (10 mmoles) are dissolved in
35 ml of distilled water. The solution is cooled at 4°C
and applied in a column containing 15 ml of cationic
exchange sulfonic resin generated in H^+ form and
thermostated at 4°C. The column is then eluted with 15
ml of distilled water and the eluate is collected at 4°C,
flowed with nitrogen stream and neutralised with 1,46 g

of lysine. The obtained solution is filtered, frozen and vacuum dried.

The reaction yields 99%.

The chemical-physical characteristics of the product L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol lysine salt are:

Appearance : powder

Formula : $C_9H_{19}O_{11}P \cdot C_6H_{14}N_2O_2$

molecular formula : $C_{15}H_{33} N_2O_{13}P$

molecular weight : 480,40

elemental analysis : solubility in organic solvents

: slightly soluble in organic solvents :

C=37,50%; H=6,92%; N=5.83%; O=43,30, P=6,45%

solubility in water : >10mg/ml

TLC :100 mcg applied to a silica gel plate;

developing solvent A chloroform/methanol/water 3:3:1

developing solvent B acetonitrile/water 3:1,

spray $KMnO_4$ basic - complying with the standard of GPI;

no degradation product is observed.

Example 7

Preparation of arginine salt of L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol

3,7 g of GPI potassium salt (10 mmoles) are dissolved in 35 ml of distilled water. The solution is cooled at 4°C and applied to a column containing 15 ml of cationic

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exchange sulfonic resin generated in H⁺ form and thermostated at 4°C. The column is then eluted with 15 ml of distilled water and the eluate is collected at 4°C, flowed with nitrogen stream and neutralised with 1,74 g of arginine. The obtained solution is filtered, frozen and vacuum dried.

The reaction yields 98%.

The chemical-physical characteristics of the product L- α -glycero-phospho-D-myo-inositol arginine salt are:

Appearance : powder

Formula : $C_9H_{19}O_{11}P.C_6H_{14}N_4O_2$

molecular formula : $C_{15}H_{33}N_4O_{13}P$

molecular weight : 508,42

Elemental analysis : C=35,44%; H=6,54%; N=11,02%;
O=40,91%; P=6,09%

solubility in organic solvents : slightly soluble
in organic solvents

solubility in water : >10mg/ml

TLC : 100 mcg applied to a silica gel plate;

developing solvent A chloroform/methanol/water 3:3:1

developing solvent B acetonitrile/water 3:1,

spray $KMnO_4$ basic - complying with the standard of GPI;

no degradation product is observed.

Example 8

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Preparation of tetrabutylammonium salt of L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol

3,7 g of GPI potassium salt (10 mmoles) are dissolved in 35 ml of distilled water. The solution is cooled at 4°C and applied to a column containing 15 ml of cationic exchange sulfonic resin generated in H⁺ form and thermostated at 4°C. The column is then eluted with 15 ml of distilled water and the eluate is collected at 4°C, flowed with nitrogen stream and neutralised with 10 ml of 1M aqueous solution of tetrabutylammonium hydroxide. The obtained solution is filtered, frozen and lyophilised.

The reaction yields 97%.

The L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol tetrabutylammonium salt show the following characteristics:

Appearance : powder

Formula : $C_9H_{18}O_{11}P \cdot C_{16}H_{36}N$

molecular formula : $C_{25}H_{54}NO_{11}P$

molecular weight : 575,69

elemental analysis : C=52,16%; H=9,46%; N=2,43%;
O=30,57%; P=5,38%

solubility in organic solvents : slightly soluble
in organic solvents, ≥ 10 mg/ml in DMF

solubility in water : >10 mg/ml

TLC : 100 mcg applied to a silica gel plate;

developing solvent A chloroform/methanol/water 3:3:1
developing solvent B acetonitrile/water 3:1,
spray KMnO_4 basic - complying with the standard of GPI;
no degradation product is observed.

Example 9

Preparation of potassium salt of L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol peracetilated

5,76g of GPI tetrabutylammonium salt (10 mmoli) are dissolved in 35 ml of anhydrous DMF. The mixture is cooled at 4°C under stirring. 15 ml of anhydrous pyridine and 10 ml of acetic anhydride are added slowly, drop by drop, under stirring over 30 minutes. The mixture is brought to room temperature and kept under stirring for 48 hours in anhydrous conditions. The mixture is then dried under vacuum. The residue is suspended in 10 ml of ethanol and 100 mg of KCl and then precipitated by adding 30 ml of diethylether. The obtained residue is suspended with 30 ml of water and 20g of ice and extracted three times with 30 ml of tetrahydrofuran. The upper layers are collected and dried. The obtained residue is dissolved in 30 ml of ethanol and eluted in a column containing 15 ml of cationic exchange sulfonic resin generated in K^+ form. The eluate is evaporated under vacuum and then dried under high vacuum.

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The reaction yields 90%.

The chemical-physical characteristics of the product L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol potassium salt peracetylated are:

Appearance : powder

molecular formula : $C_{23}H_{32}O_{18}PK$

molecular weight : 666,58

elemental analysis : C= 41,44%; H= 4,84%; O= 43,21%; P= 4,65 %; K= 5.87%

solubility in organic solvents: \geq 10 mg/ml in DMF and ethanol

Example 10

Potassium salt of glycerotio-phospho-D-mio-inositol. [-S-P-]

The compound is prepared starting from diacylglycerotiophosphoril-inositol obtained as described by Kubiak et al. "ACS SYMPOSIUM SERIES" 718, page 180.

1,0 g of diacylglycerotiophosphoryl-inositol is suspended in 10 ml of anhydrous methanol in nitrogen atmosphere. 50 mg of potassium tert-butoxide are added and the mixture is maintained under stirring at 20°C for 3 hour. 26,7 mg of acetic acid are added, the mixture are dried. The residue is dissolved in 10 ml of cool water and extracted

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with 10 ml of diethylether. The organic layer is then discarded."

The solution is cooled to 4°C and applied to a column containing 5 ml of cationic exchange sulfonic resin generated in H⁺ form and thermostated at 4°C. The column is then eluted with 5 ml of distilled water and the eluate is collected at 4°C, flowed with nitrogen stream and neutralised with 0.1M KOH till pH 7.0. The obtained solution is filtered, frozen and vacuum dried.

The reaction yields 95%.

The chemical-physical characteristics of the product Potassium salt of glycerotio-phospho-D-mio-inositol are:

Appearance : powder

molecular formula : C₉H₁₈O₁₀PSK

molecular weight : 388,38

elemental analysis : C=27,84%; H=4,67%;
S=8,25%; O=41,20%; P=7,98%; K=10,07%

solubility in organic solvents : slightly soluble
in organic solvents

solubility in water : ≥10mg/ml

TLC : 100 mcg applied to a silica gel plate;

developing solvent A chloroform/methanol/water 3:3:1

developing solvent B acetonitrile/water 3:1,

spray KMnO₄ basic - R_f=0,38.

Example 11

Potassium salt of glycerotio-phosphotio-D-mio-inositol.

[-P=S]

The synthesis is performed starting from 2,3,4,5,6-penta-O-methoxymethyl-D-mio-inositol described by T.G. Mayer et al Eur. J. Org. Chem. (1998) pag. 291-298.

400 mg of 2,3,4,5,6-penta-O-methoxymethyl-D-mio-inositol (1 mmole) are dissolved in 50 ml of tetrahydrofurane/dichloromethane 1:4 and the mixture is cooled to a -15 °C.

70 mg of imidazole and 220 mg of triethylamine are added, then, slowly drop by drop, a solution of 150 mg of phosphorus trichloride in 5 ml of anhydrous dichloromethane.

The obtained mixture is maintained under stirring for 2 hours, then heated to room temperature, added with 10 ml of triethylammonium bicarbonate and stirred for 1 hour. After phase separation, the lower layer is collected, washed two times with 5 ml of cool water, evaporated and dried under high vacuum.

The residue is suspended in 20 ml of anhydrous pyridine then add 200 mg of 5,5-dimethyl-2-oxo-2-chloro-1,2,3-dioxophosphorinane and 132,2 mg of D- α,β -isopropylidenglycerol, then the mixture is stirred at room temperature for 30 min under inert atmosphere. The

mixture is dry- evaporated. The residue is suspended in 50 ml of carbon tetrachloride and added with 100 mg of sulphur; stir for 30 min. at room temperature then dry under high vacuum. The residue is solubilized in 20 ml of anhydrous methanol and added with 100 mg of p-toluensulfonic acid. The mixture is heated for two hours to 40°C then cooled to room temperature, added with 2 ml of water under stirring for 30 min. The mixture is neutralised with ammonium bicarbonate and dried. The residue is purified through preparative chromatography in column of silica gel using as developing solvent a mixture of chloroform/methanol/water 35:25:7. The fractions containing the product are collected and dried under vacuum.

The residue is dissolved in 5 ml of water; the solution is cooled at 4°C and eluted through a column 5 ml of sulfonic resin, cationic exchange generated in form H⁺ at 4°C. The column is eluted with 5 ml of distilled water, the eluate is collected at 4°C, flowed with nitrogen stream and neutralised with KOH 0,1 M till pH 7,0. The obtained solution is filtered, frozen and vacuum dried.

The reaction yields 65%.

The chemical-physical characteristics of the product Potassium salt of glycerotio-phosphotio-D-mio-inositol are:

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Appearance : powder

molecular formula : $C_9H_{18}O_{10}PSK$

molecular weight : 388,38

elemental analysis : C=27,84%; H=4,67%; S=8,25%;
O=41,20%; P=7,98%; K=10,07%

solubility in organic solvents : slightly soluble
in organic solvents

solubility in water : $\geq 10\text{mg/ml}$

TLC : 100 mcg applied to a silica gel plate;
developing solvent A chloroform/methanol/water 3:3:1
developing solvent B acetonitrile/water 3:1,
spray $KMnO_4$ basic - $R_f=0,35$.

Biological Activity

The compounds have been coded according to the examples and numbered as follows:

| Es. | Chemical Name |
|-----|--|
| | L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol calcium salt |
| | L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol zinc salt |
| | L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol sodium salt |
| 4° | L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol potassium salt |
| | L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol choline salt |

L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol lysin salt

The compounds have been tested in vitro on cell lines and in vivo in a inflammation model induced with substance P and its peptide P6-11 in mice.

Abbreviations, Reagents and Materials

Hormones: Gibco (Grand Island, NY) (6H-thyrotropin, insulin, transferrin, cortisol, somatostatin, glicil-L-istidil-L-lysin acetate)

Penicillin: Gibco (Grand Island, NY)

Coon's F-12 Medium modified according to Ham: Gibco
(Grand Island, NY)

Streptomycin: Gibco (Grand Island, NY)

NaF, $AlCl_3$: Fluka Chem AG (CH)

5,6,8,11,12,14,15- $^3H(N)$ arachidonic Acid: Du Pont- NEN
(Boston, MA)

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BSA Bovine Serum Albumin, Sigma A-3311

Evan's Blue: Sigma E-2129

Formamide: Sigma F-7503

Ethyl Ether: Fluka Chem AG (CH)

PTFE 0,45 µm Filters: Costar 130662

Substance P, SP: Clinalfa (IT)

SP Carboxy terminal peptide SP6-11 Sigma S-0772

Protein Kinase C, PKC

Phospholipase A2, PLA2

Phospholipase C, PLC

Mitogen activated PK, MAPK

Evaluation of the effects of the L- α -glycero-
phospho-D-mio-inositol autacoid coded example 3, example

4 and example 4a on the release of arachidonic acid induced by cPLA2 in various cellular systems.

Experimental Models

Cell Cultures

FRTL5, cell line of epithelial cells from rat thyroid grown in culture. Briefly, the cells were cultured in Coon's F12 medium modified according to Ham and supplemented with 5% bovine serum, 20 mM glutamine and a mixture of six hormones (6H-thyrotropin, insulin, transferrin, cortisol, somatostatin, glycil-L-istidil-L-lysine acetate) at 37°C in a humidified atmosphere in 5% CO₂, 95% air medium changed every 3-4 days.

Swiss 3T3 Fibroblasts

The cultures are stimulated to release arachidonic acid using various stimuli:

cPLA2-dependent mechanism, for example ATP, mastoparan, bombesin;

cPLA2-independent mechanism, for example Ca²⁺ ionophore, ionomycin.

Test

Release of Arachidonic Acid

The cells are initially incubated with various concentrations of the compound under examination for 60 minutes or with a predefined concentration of 100 μM for various time intervals (15-180 minutes), washed two times with HBSS (Hank's Balanced Salt Solution, in the presence of Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} ions) added with 10 mM Hepes and 0.2% BSA - in absence of free fatty acids, pH 7.4 and stimulated with 100 μM ATP in the described buffer for 10 minutes at 37°C. The supernatant was collected in scintillation cuvettes for determination. The results are expressed as a percentage of the total release of [3H]-arachidonic acid.

Results

The compound under evaluation coded as example 4a has been shown to reduce in a time and concentration dependent manner the release of arachidonic acid induced by the activation of the cPLA2 in all the cellular systems in which the test has been performed (Table 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

The compounds coded as examples 3 and example 4 show a more potent effect (Table 6)

On the contrary, compound example 4a does not induce reduction of the release of arachidonic acid induced by stimuli not related to cPLA2, such as calcium ionophore (Table 7).

All together, the reported data show that the compound of example 4a and the compound of example 3 and example 4 are able to limit the release of arachidonic acid according to a mechanism specifically mediated by the negative regulation of the activating pathway of the cytosolic cPLA2, in other words of the main pathway involved in the mobilization of arachidonic acid.

Table 1: Time-course of the inhibition of the release of arachidonic acid in the presence of the compound of example 4a in FRTL5 cells stimulated with ATP.

| Time Minutes of preincubation | release of [³ H]-arachidonic acid % inhibition |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 15 | 30 ± 4 |

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| | |
|-----|--------|
| 30 | 42 ± 5 |
| 60 | 70 ± 4 |
| 90 | 72 ± 5 |
| 120 | 71 ± 6 |
| 180 | 92 ± 9 |

Preloaded cells are incubated with 100 μM of compound of the Example 4a for different time intervals and then stimulated with ATP (100 μM) for 10 minutes. The results are expressed as the mean \pm SE of two points in 3 separate experiments. The stimulation of control cells was generally 4-5 times the basal value in the corresponding intervals.

Table 2: The compound of example 4a induces a inhibition of the release of arachidonic acid from FRTL5 cells stimulated with ATP.

| Concentration (μM) | Release of [^3H]-arachidonic acid % inhibition |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 0.005 | 10 ± 2 |
| 0.01 | 35 ± 5 |
| 0.1 | 41 ± 2 |
| 1.0 | 52 ± 3 |

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| | |
|-----|------------|
| 10 | 60 \pm 8 |
| 50 | 70 \pm 4 |
| 100 | 92 \pm 2 |

Preloaded cells were pre-incubated with various concentrations of the Example 4a for 60 minutes and then stimulated with 100 μ M ATP for 10 minutes. The results are expressed as the mean \pm SE of two points in 3 separate experiments.

Table 3 The compound of the Example 4a inhibits the release of [3 H]- arachidonic acid from Swiss 3T3 fibroblasts stimulated with ATP.

| Treatment (concentration μ M) | Release of [3 H]-arachidonic acid % basal |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| ATP | 149 \pm 11 |
| Example 4a (50) | 80 \pm 9 |
| Example 4a (100) | 70 \pm 4 |

Preloaded cells were pre-incubated with various concentrations of the Example 4a for 60 minutes and then stimulated with 100 μ M ATP for 10 minutes. The results

are expressed as the mean \pm SE of two points in 3 separate experiments.

TABLE 4 The compound of Example 4a reduces the mastoparan-dependent release of [3 H]-arachidonic acid in Swiss 3T3 fibroblasts

| Treatment (Concentration μ M) | Release of [3 H]-arachidonic acid % basal |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Mastoparan | 150 \pm 12 |
| Example 4a (50) | 90 \pm 3 |
| Example 4a (100) | 80 \pm 4 |

Preloaded radioactively labeled cells were pre-incubated with various concentrations of the Example 4a for 60 minutes and then stimulated with 100 μ M mastoparan for 10 minutes. The results are expressed as the mean \pm SE of two points in 3 separate experiments.

Table 5 The compound of the example 4a reduces the bombesin-dependent release of [3 H]-arachidonic acid in Swiss 3T3 fibroblasts.

| Treatment | Release of [3 H]-arachidonic acid |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
|-----------|---------------------------------------|

40

| (Concentration μM) | % basal |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Bombesin | 170 \pm 14 |
| Example 4a (50) | 120 \pm 3 |
| Example 4a (100) | 90 \pm 4 |

Preloaded cells were pre-incubated with various concentrations of the Example 4a for 60 minutes and then stimulated with bombesin for 10 minutes. The results are expressed as the mean \pm SE of two points in 3 separate experiments.

Table 6 Compound of the example 4a does not inhibit the release of the [^3H]-arachidonic acid induced by ionomycin in FRTL5 cells.

| Treatment (Concentration μM) | Release of [^3H]-arachidonic acid |
|---|---|
| Ionomycin | 320 \pm 5 |
| Example 4a (10) | 720 \pm 30 |
| Example 4a (50) | 450 \pm 14 |

Preloaded cells were pre-incubated with various concentrations of the Example 4a for 60 minutes and then stimulated with 10 μM ionomycin for 30 minutes. The

results are expressed as the mean \pm SE of two points in 3 separate experiments.

Evaluation of the protective activity on the local inflammation induced by the peptide P6-11 of substance P versus Substance P.

Experimental Model

Balb/c mice of female gender, of about 20-22 g, maintained in normal conditions light/dark cycles and fed "ad libitum", are anaesthetized by exposure to a ethyl-ether saturated atmosphere. The animals are then divided in 4 groups of 10 animals each.

The capillary permeability is induced by means of a subcutaneous injection into the left ear pinna of substance P (1 pmole/3 μ l) or of its peptide fragment P6-11 (1 pmole/3 μ l); the control received an injection of saline solution (Mazzari et al. Eur. J. Pharm. 1996).

Plasma extravasation in the ear pinna of the mouse.

The mice receive an endovenous injection of Evan's Blue (100 mg/kg) immediately after the substance P or the P6-11 peptide and were sacrificed two hours later. The dye was then extracted by an homogenization (Polytron

homogenizer) of the injected ear pinna in 2 ml of formamide. The homogenized tissue was then incubated at 50°C for 2 hours. The plasma extravasation was measured as optical density of the Evan's Blue at 620 nm (A620), according to the method of Saria and Lunberg (1983).

Solubilization and administration of the compounds

The compounds described in the examples have been solubilized in a 0.9% saline solution and administered by endovenous injection at doses ranging between 0.5 and 5 mg/kg 30 minutes before capillary permeabilization.

Results

The extravasation induced by substance P is due to a dual activation mechanism of both the mast cells and the basal endothelial cells, while the substance P fragment - peptide P6-11 - causes extravasation only due to an effect on the endothelium through the interaction with the NK1 receptors ("Role of the N- terminal arginine in the histamine releasing activity of substance P, bradykinin and related peptides" ; Deviller P., Drapeau G., Renoux M., Regoli D., Europ. J. Pharmacol. 168(1989): 53-60.).

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All the tested compounds significantly reduce the capillary permeability induced by the peptide P6-11, while not significantly affecting the permeability induced by SP (Table 9).

In particular, the potassium salt of GPI of Example 5a limits the extravasation induced by the substance P fragment P6-11.

Table 7 The compounds coded Examples 4a, and 6 limit the extravasation induced by P6-11.

| Treatment | | Absorbance |
|-----------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Group 1 | Saline + vehicle | 0.058 ± 0.009 |
| Group 2 | P 6-11 + vehicle | 0.108 ± 0.014* |
| Group 3 | P6-11 + Ex. 4a 5mg/kg | 0.081± 0.027 |
| Group 4 | P 6-11 + Ex. 2 5 mg/Kg | 0.092± 0.021 |

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| | | |
|---------|-------------------|----------------|
| Group 5 | P 6-11+ Ex. 2 10 | 0.079 ± 0.022• |
| mg/Kg | | |
| Group 6 | P 6-11 + Ex. 6 5 | 0.131 ± 0.022 |
| mg/Kg | | |
| Group 7 | P 6-11 + Ex. 6 10 | 0.072 ± 0.010• |
| mg/Kg | | |

Student -Newman- Keuls Test *p<0.05 vs Group 1; • p<0.05 vs Group 2; p<0.05 vs Group 6.

Table 8 Dose dependent effect of compound coded Example 4a, on the extravasation induced by the P6-11.

| Treatment | | Absorbance $\times 10^{-2}$ |
|-----------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Group 1 | P 6-11 + vehicle | 74 ± 3 * |
| Group 2 | P 6-11 + Es 4a 0.5mg/kg | 54 ± 4 * |

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| | | | |
|---------|----------------|------|----------|
| Group 3 | P 6-11 + Es 4a | 1. 5 | 57 ± 7 * |
| mg/Kg | | | |
| Group 4 | P 6-11 + Es.4a | 5 | 34 ± 8 * |
| mg/Kg | | | |

Student -Newman- Keuls Test *p<0.05 .

Table 9 L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol potassium salt (Ex. 4a) and L- α -glycero-phospho-D-mio-inositol calcium salt (Ex 2) on the extravasation induced by substance P

| Treatment | Absorbance |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| saline + vehicle | 0.126 ± 0.012 |
| substance P + vehicle | 0.278 ± 0.023 |
| substance P + Ex. 5 5 mg/kg | 0.222 ± 0.010 |
| substance P + Ex .6 5 mg/Kg | 0.239 ± 0.015 |

The reported evidences show that the compounds of the invention limit the plasma protein extravasation induced by the terminal peptide of substance P, P6-11. The peptide P6-11 induces a protein extravasation through the epithelium according to a specific mechanism mediated by the neurokin receptor termed NK1. It must be recalled that the NK1, NK2, and NK3 receptors mediate the signal of the endogenous ligands SP, NKA, and NKB respectively, all of which recognize the terminal portion of SP present to the peptide P6-11.

In conclusion, the tested compounds of the invention are capable to negatively modulate the cPLA2 and thus to limit the cascade of events related to the arachidonic acid metabolism. The compounds of the invention are furthermore capable to limit the activation of the cPLA2 and the increase of arachidonic acid levels present in situations of altered barrier permeability such as the vasal-perineurium of the peripheral nervous system and the blood-brain barrier of the central nervous system induced by various stimuli, for example ATP.

The compounds of the invention modulate also the activation of the cPLA2 mediated by the bombesin receptors, which is involved in the disregulation of food

intake and may thus be helpfully used for the treatment of pathologies mediated by such a cachexia mechanism, for example bulimia, anorexia, obesity and cachexia.

The compounds of the invention are furthermore capable to modulate the stimulation of the NK-1 receptor of an in vivo model.

The compounds of the invention can thus be a valid therapeutic tool for the treatment of pathologies mediated by an activation or over stimulation of the cPLA2, as those previously listed.

The dosages, timing and the ways of administration will be chosen according to the type, stage, seriousness and district of appearance of the pathology or alteration or of the eventual application in human or veterinarian health care and comprised between 0.1 and 100 mg/kg for 3-90 days for each therapy cycle. For all the pathologies mentioned are indicated the systemic, parenteral, oral and rectal administration, but also topic, transdermic and in any case such that to achieve the highest availability of the active substance. For oral formulations are privileged administrations as tablets,

sugar coated tablets and capsules, but also powders and solutions/suspensions including nebulization.

For topic treatments are preferred gels, creams and solutions compatible with skin and mucosal use, including the gingival mucosa, together with eye drops for the administration into the conjunctival sac.

The injectable forms are formulated with solvents compatible for pharmaceutical use and for the endovenous, intramuscular and subcutaneous administration.

The same active compounds can be formulated at the proper concentrations, as supplements for oral intake for the prevention or coadiuvant treatment of alterations related to disreactive conditions in man and veterinarian medicine.

The following are some examples of pharmaceutical and cosmetic preparations which have only a descriptive, but not limitative purpose.

Example A - Tablet

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| Active principle | Example 6 | 100 mg |
| Excipients | Microcrystalline cellulose | 160 mg |

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| | |
|--------------|--------|
| Starch | 28 mg |
| Lactose | 100 mg |
| Stearic acid | 6,0 mg |

Example B - injectable formulation

Vial 1

Active principle Example 4 lyophilised 50 mg

Vial 2

| | | |
|-----------|---|--------|
| Excipient | Sodium phosphate bibasic 12H ₂ O | 12 mg |
| | Sodium phosphate monobasic 2 H ₂ O | 1 mg |
| | Sodium chloride | 32 mg |
| | Water for injection | to 4ml |

Example C - cream W/O for topic application

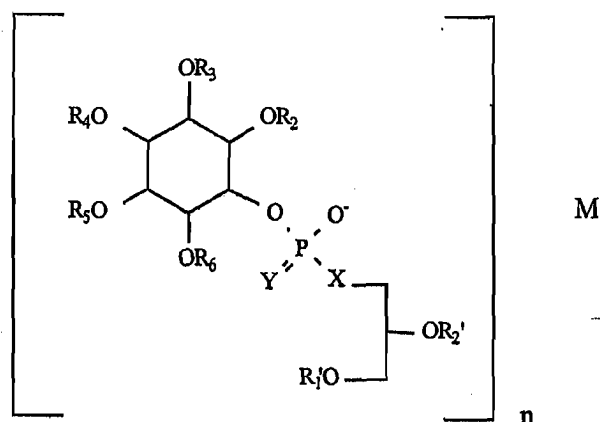
% mg

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Active principle | Example 7 | 2 |
| Excipients | Twin 60 | 0.5 |
| | Polwax | 2.5 |
| | Cetylstearyl alcohol | 2 |
| | Carbomer | 0.5 |
| | TEA | 0.5 |
| | Glycerin | 3 |
| | Preservants | 1 |
| | Water | to 100 mg |

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CLAIMS

1. Compounds of general formula (I):



(I)

their enantiomers, diastereoisomers, racemes, their mixtures, their hydrates and solvates, wherein:

I) R', R₂', R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, R₆ can be equal or different among each other being

a) H or

a group C(O)A, acyclic residue of mono-carboxylic acid or emiacyclic residue of di-carboxylic acid, where A can be: an alkyl radical saturated or unsaturated having from 1 to 4 double bond, straight or branched, or an alkyl or alkenyl group mono or poly-cyclic, or an aryl, arylalkyl or heterocyclic group having one or more heteroatoms; these groups are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected among keto, hydroxy, acylamidic, halogen,

mercapto, alkylthio or alkyldithio, -COOH and these -COOH are optionally salified to form a -COOM salt wherein M has the same meaning described at point (II); or

- a group B wherein B is an alkyl group saturated or unsaturated with from 1 to 6 double bonds, straight or branched; or an alkyl or alkenyl group mono- o poly-cyclic or an aryl, alkylaryl group or heterocycle having one or more heteroatoms; these radicals are optionally substituted with one or more groups selected among keto, hydroxy, acylamido, halogen, mercapto, alkylthio or alkyldithio, -COOH and these -COOH are optionally neutralized to form a -COOM salt wherein M has the same meaning described at point (II)

(II) M is the cation of an inorganic element pharmacologically acceptable, or a cation of a pharmacologically acceptable organic base having valence $n+$ wherein n has the meaning described in the following point III);

(III) n is 1 or 2 or 3;

(IV) X e Y equal or different from each other are O or S;

and wherein, when Y is S, the compounds according to formula (I) include also the respective not-neutralized compounds.

2. Compounds according to claim 1, wherein M is:

a) biologically acceptable inorganic cation or

b) biologically acceptable organic cation

having valence $n+$ wherein n means 1 or 2 or 3.

3. Compounds according to claim 1, wherein:

a) when A is an alkyl group preferably saturated or mono-unsaturated, it has from 1 to 8 carbon atoms and preferably from 2 to 6 carbon atoms;

b) when A is an alkyl or alkenyl mono- or poly-cyclic group, it has from 5 to 30 carbon atoms and preferably from 6 to 24 carbon atoms;

c) when A is an aryl, arylalkyl or heterocycle having one or more heteroatoms, it has from 4 to 15 carbon atoms and preferably from 4 to 8 carbon atoms and has from 1 to 5 and preferably from 1 to 3 heteroatoms, selected among N, O and S, preferably N;

d) when B is an alkyl group it is saturated or mono-unsaturated having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms and preferably from 2 to 6 carbon atoms;

e) when B is an alkyl or alkenyl mono- or poly-cyclic group, it has from 5 to 30 carbon atoms and preferably from 6 to 24 carbon atoms;

f) when B is an aryl arylalkyl or heterocyclic group, having one or more heteroatoms, it has from 5 to 15 carbon atoms and preferably from 5 to 8 carbon atoms and

has from 1 to 5 heteroatoms and preferably from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected among N, O and S, preferably N.

4. Compounds according to claim 2, wherein M is:

a) biologically acceptable inorganic cation selected among chromium, selenium, copper, alkaline elements, earth-alkaline, Zn and Fe;

b) cation of a biologically acceptable organic base preferably selected among mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra-alkylammonium and preferably N-(2-hydroxy)dimethylammonium, choline cation, or aminoacid cation and preferably lysine or arginine, or of mono-, di-, tri- and tetra-peptides or cations of xanthine base and preferably caffeine.

5. Compounds according to any claims from 1 to 4, for treating of pathologies mediated by an activation or over-stimulation of cPLA2.

6. The use of the compounds according to any one of claims from 1 to 4 and of their not-salified derivatives, for the preparation of pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of pathologies mediated by activation or over-stimulation of cPLA2.

7. Use according to claim 6, for the treatment of pathologies associated with over-stimulation of growth factors EGF or NGF and/or NK-1 receptor and/or of

receptors coupled with G proteins which activate cPLA2, such as ATP receptors and/or bombesin receptors.

8. Use according to claim 6 or 7, for the treatment of cardiogenic and septic shock and of viral or bacterial infection.

9. Use according to claim 6 or 7, for the treatment of pathologies of the respiratory apparatus, such as acute pulmonary damage including new-born pathologies, chronic obstructive bronchopathies including asthma.

10. Use according to claim 6 or 7, for the treatment of dermatologic pathologies such as psoriasis, seborrheic dermatitis, atopic dermatitis and more generally skin dis-reactivity involving also the oxidative stress following UVB damage; and eye pathologies such as glaucoma and conjunctivitis.

11. Use according to claim 6 or 7, for the treatment of tumour pathologies, such as the prostate and kidney carcinoma, or in any way dependent on the activation of the cPLA2, and of renal pathologies.

12. Use according to claim 6 or 7, for the treatment of alterations of gingival tissue also due to a bacterial infection and of the mucosal damage in intestinal ischaemia.

13. Use according to claim 6 or 7, for the treatment of articular pathologies such as arthritis and arthrosis, including rheumatoid arthritis.

14. Use according to claim 6 or 7, for the treatment of migraine and headache, pain and hyperalgesia.

15. Use according to claim 6 or 7, for the treatment of cardiac disorders and cardio-vascular disease associated with vascular remodelling.

16. Use according to claim 6 or 7, for the treatment of Peripheral Nervous System pathologies associated with inflammation and of toxic-dismetabolic neuropathies and for the treatment of Central Nervous System such as Alzheimer disease, behavioural alteration such as schizophrenia depression, pathologies caused by iatrogenic damage or caused by toxic agents such as cocaine and cutaneous disorders or alterations associated with sphingomyelin cycle, including the hereditary forms such as the Hermansky-Pudlak and the Nieman-Pick syndromes.

17. Use according to claim 6 or 7, for the treatment of pathologies associated with damage to the barrier between vessel and nervous system such as the perineurium of the nerves and associated with damage of blood brain barrier, for example neuronal edema, stroke, cerebral edema and hemorrhage, TIA (Transient Ischemic Attack);

18. Use according to claim 6 o 7, for the treatment of pathologies related to food intake disorders such as bulimia, anorexia, cachexia, obesity.

19. Use according to claim 6 o 7, for the treatment of dis-metabolic pathologies such as diabetes and pancreatitis.

20. Compositions containing as active principle at least one of the derivatives according to anyone of claims from 1 to 4 in association with pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

21. Composition according to claim 20, suitable for oral administration, parenteral administration, rectal administration, sublingual, intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous, topic, intradermic, transdermic administration.

22. Composition according to claim 21, wherein the topic route is cutaneous or intraocular.

23. Composition according to claim 21, wherein the oral form of administration is powder, tablets, pills, capsules, pearls, liquid suspensions or formulations based on lyophilized starting material such as dry syrup.

24. Composition according to claim 21, wherein the form of parenteral administration is an extemporary injectable formulation starting from lyophilized compounds.

25. Composition according to claim 21, wherein, the form of topical administration is a cream, ointment, gel, lyophilized powder, solution or a nebulized form.

26. Use according to anyone of claims from 6 to 20, wherein the medicament is for veterinary use.

27. Use according to anyone of claims from 6 to 20 or claim 26, wherein such treatment involves doses of active principle including between 0.1 e 100 mg/kg for 3-90 days each cycle of treatment, depending on type, stage, severity and compartment of manifestation of the pathology or alteration and depending on human or veterinary application.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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| A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 C07F9/117 C07F9/10 C07F9/177 A61K31/683 A61P17/00 A61P19/00 A61P25/00 A61P27/00 A61P31/00 | | |
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| According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC | | |
| B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 C07F A61K A61P | | |
| Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched | | |
| Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, CHEM ABS Data | | |
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| * Special categories of cited documents : *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. *Z* document member of the same patent family | | |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search 12 July 2001 | | Date of mailing of the international search report 26/07/2001 |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 | | Authorized officer Beslier, L |

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